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**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/821,374

Applicant(s)

CHAN, KWOK HUNG

Examiner

Anabel M. Ton

Art Unit

2875

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09/30/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-36.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

1. Claims 21-36 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art cited does not teach the following limitations:
  - McColloch (6,394,626), although teaching an outdoor lighting display using light emitting devices, a top corresponding to the shape of the channel containing light sources covers the channel to protect the flexible light track from weather changes, the flexible light track includes a plurality of plastic modules having electrical connectors and respective tracks, LEDs are inserted in the plastic modules, the plastic modules containing the LEDs are connected in parallel, the modules and respective light sources are connected to a power supply/connector; McColloch does not teach the combination of a power supply, a connecting chain comprising a tubular shelter and at least a terminal received in said tubular shelter and extended there along to electrically connect with said power supply, and a plurality of elementary building units alignedly mounted along said connecting chain, wherein each of said elementary building units comprises a supporting case having an outer light-transmissible surface and a chaining passageway longitudinally extended through said supporting case such that said connecting chain is slidably extended through said chaining passageway to slidably mount said supporting case along said connecting chain,

wherein each of said supporting cases comprises a lower base and an upper housing. wherein said chaining passageway is longitudinally extended through said lower base in such a manner that when said upper housing is mounted on said lower base; a lighting system supporting within said supporting case and comprising an illuminating unit and a print circuit board electrically connected with said illuminating unit for controlling said illuminating unit to illuminate to outside through said light-transmissible surface of said supporting case; and an operating system comprising at least an operating member electrically extended from said printed circuit board, wherein said operating member is arranged to be extended into said chaining passageway to penetrate through said tubular shelter so as to electrically contact with said terminal so as to electrically connect said illuminating unit with said power supply and to substantially retain said supporting case along said connecting chain in position.

- Mohacsi(2003/02232355) although teaching a lighting unit including at least one elongated substrate having a plurality of light emitting optoelectronic devices mounted thereon and an elongated housing supporting the elongated substrate, the lighting unit having first wiring harness for connection to a power source, and a second wiring harness connectable to an adjacent lighting unit; Mohacsi does not teach the combination of a power supply, a connecting chain comprising a tubular shelter and at least a terminal received in said tubular shelter and extended there along to electrically connect with said power supply, and a plurality of elementary building units alignedly mounted along said connecting

chain, wherein each of said elementary building units comprises a supporting case having an outer light-transmissible surface and a chaining passageway longitudinally extended through said supporting case such that said connecting chain is slidably extended through said chaining passageway to slidably mount said supporting case along said connecting chain, wherein each of said supporting cases comprises a lower base and an upper housing. wherein said chaining passageway is longitudinally extended through said lower base in such a manner that when said upper housing is mounted on said lower base; a lighting system supporting within said supporting case and comprising an illuminating unit and a print circuit board electrically connected with said illuminating unit for controlling said illuminating unit to illuminate to outside through said light-transmissible surface of said supporting case; and an operating system comprising at least an operating member electrically extended from said printed circuit board, wherein said operating member is arranged to be extended into said chaining passageway to penetrate through said tubular shelter so as to electrically contact with said terminal so as to electrically connect said illuminating unit with said power supply and to substantially retain said supporting case along said connecting chain in position.

- Shih (6,648,492) although teaching a number of light devices each having a circuit board secured to a sucker member a light member secured to the circuit board a coupler attached to the circuit board, and another coupler coupled to the circuit board with electric wires; Shih does not teach the combination of a power

supply, a connecting chain comprising a tubular shelter and at least a terminal received in said tubular shelter and extended there along to electrically connect with said power supply, and a plurality of elementary building units alignedly mounted along said connecting chain, wherein each of said elementary building units comprises a supporting case having an outer light-transmissible surface and a chaining passageway longitudinally extended through said supporting case such that said connecting chain is slidably extended through said chaining passageway to slidably mount said supporting case along said connecting chain, wherein each of said supporting cases comprises a lower base and an upper housing. wherein said chaining passageway is longitudinally extended through said lower base in such a manner that when said upper housing is mounted on said lower base; a lighting system supporting within said supporting case and comprising an illuminating unit and a print circuit board electrically connected with said illuminating unit for controlling said illuminating unit to illuminate to outside through said light-transmissible surface of said supporting case; and an operating system comprising at least an operating member electrically extended from said printed circuit board, wherein said operating member is arranged to be extended into said chaining passageway to penetrate through said tubular shelter so as to electrically contact with said terminal so as to electrically connect said illuminating unit with said power supply and to substantially retain said supporting case along said connecting chain in position.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

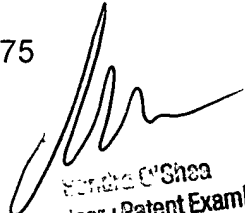
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anabel M. Ton whose telephone number is (571) 272-2382. The examiner can normally be reached on 08:00-16:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Anabel M Ton  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2875

AMT



Sandra O'Shea  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800